2008
Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
Matthews Manor – MD0080027
Charles County, Maryland

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of the water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring that the quality of your water meets all local, State and Federal standards and regulations.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer who are undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791),

The source of the drinking water for your system is the Aguia Aquifer. An aquifer is a sort of underground reservoir or deposit of water that is tapped by drilling wells and pumping the water to the surface for distribution. The earth between the surface (where sources of contamination occur) and this underground aquifer help to purify the water before it actually reaches the aquifer. This makes it easier for us to treat the water supply before we pump it into your water distribution system.

We are pleased to report that the drinking water in your system is safe and meets Federal and State requirements. The following report is provided in compliance with Federal regulations and will be provided annually. This report outlines the quality of our finished drinking water and what that quality means. If you have any questions concerning this report or any aspect of your water utility, please contact Ryland Hock at 301-934-1856.

Ryland Hock routinely monitors the Matthews Manor community water system for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The table on the following pages shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 thru December 31, 2008. As water travels over the land or underground, it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It is important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk.

Definitions

In this report, you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Non-Detects (ND) – laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.
Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) – one part per million corresponds to 1 minute in 2 years or single penny in $10,00.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (ug/l) – one part per billion corresponds to 1 minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in $10,000,000.

Action Level – the concentration of contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements, which a water system must follow.

Treatment Technique (TT) – a treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level – The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal – The "Goal" (MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

PCi/L – Picocuries per liter – (a measurement of radioactivity)

Non-Detected Contaminants

Following is a list of potential drinking water substances that the Department of Utilities is required to test for, but which have not been detected in the water supply in the past year

Water Quality Data Chart For 2008

Substance	Unit	MCL Highest level allowed	MCLG EPA Goal	Level Detected	Major Source
Microbiological Contaminants					
Total Coliform Bacteria	Sample	0 Positive Per Month	0 Positive	0 Positive	Naturally present in the environment
Inorganic Contaminants					
Nitrate	Mg/L	10	10	< 1.0	Runoff from fertilizer use. Leaching from septic tanks. Sewage
Antimony	Mg/L	6	6	< .005	Discharge from petroleum refineries. Fire retardants, ceramics, electronics, solder.
Arsenic	Mg/L	10	0	0.006	Erosion of natural deposits. Runoff from orchards and glass and electronics production waste
Barium	Mg/L	2	2	< .005	Discharge from drilling waste. Discharge from metal refineries. Erosion of natural deposits.
Beryllium	Mg/L	4	4	< .0005	Discharge from metal refineries and coal burning factories
Cadmium	Mg/L	5	5	< .0005	Corrosion of galvanized pipes. Erosion of natural deposits. Discharge from metal refineries.
Chromium	Mg/L	100	100	< .002	Discharge from steel and pulp mills. Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	Mg/L	4	4	0.7	Erosion of natural deposits. Water additive which promotes strong teeth. Discharge from fertilizer factories.
Mercury	Mg/L	2	2	0.0006	Erosion of natural deposits. Discharge from refineries and factories. Runoff from landfills and cropland.
Nickel	Mg/L	N/A	0.1	< .002	elements. Used in making stainless steel and other alloys
Selenium	Mg/L	50	50	< .005	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries. Erosion of natural deposits. Discharge from Mines.
Thallium	Mg/L	2	0.5	< .002	Leaching from ore-processing sites. Discharge from electronics, glass and drug factories.
Disinfectant Byproducts					
Trihalomethanes	Mg/L	0.08	N/A	0	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
Haloacetic Acid	Mg/L	0.06	N/A	0	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
Lead + Copper In Distribution System - MCL Determined In The 90th Percentile					
Lead	Mg/L	0.015	N/A	0.003	Corrosion of household plumbing system. Erosion of natural deposits
Copper	Mg/L	1.3	N/A	0.15	Corrosion of household plumbing system. Erosion of natural deposits. Leach from wood preservatives.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All drinking water including bottled water may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the E.P.A. Safe Water Hotline 1-800-426-4791.

The presence of some contaminants in drinking water is unavoidable, but we make every effort to keep our water at or below the levels specified by law as being safe for consumption. Your water system is operated by a licensed operator who is trained to provide you with the best quality water possible. All customers are urged to participate in protecting this valuable resource and practice conservation to ensure a sustainable water supply for our community.